

HyPerComp Incompressible MHD solver for Arbitrary Geometry

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**A summary of progress  
under two ongoing SBIR contracts:**

**Phase-I: Development of a canonical approach to liquid metal MHD computation and experiments**

**Phase-II Practical Simulations of two-phase MHD flows with wall effects**

# Outline

- **Summary of tasks under the two SBIR projects with highlights**
- **Overview of applications under study of interest to the PFC community**
- **Future Plans**

**Most tasks ongoing / completed  
are shown in RED**

# Phase-I: Development of a canonical approach to liquid metal MHD computation and experiments

- Computationally parameterize criteria for a fully developed flow for a variety of channel flow situations: square channels with conducting walls, vs.  $Ha$ .
- Also, study the effect of magnetic field gradients (fringing fields) on flow development.
- Develop time accurate results database for 2-D circular cylinder, with and without conducting walls. Drag force as well as vortex frequency measurements are of interest.
- Driven cavity and broken dam benchmarks: Set up appropriate benchmark problems in MHD, equivalent to these standard test cases from conventional fluid dynamics
- Design a series of experiments for Phase-II to demonstrate canonical problems: There is already a test program at UCLA dedicated to fusion related studies. However, these must be modified to suite the needs of code validation.
- Initiate a discussion for interfacing with ongoing test programs to generate a MHD-test consortium. This may be across the ALPS, Plasma Chamber and other communities.

## **Code Improvements under Phase-I**

### **1. Initiate turbulence modeling in HIMAG**

**A general purpose advection-diffusion routine has been set up. This can be used for modeling processes such as heat conduction, k-e turbulence, etc.**

### **2. Reduced dimensions for Fully developed 2D flow**

# HIMAG now has a “fully developed flow” option

Required by the need to  
benchmark 3D vs 2D effects

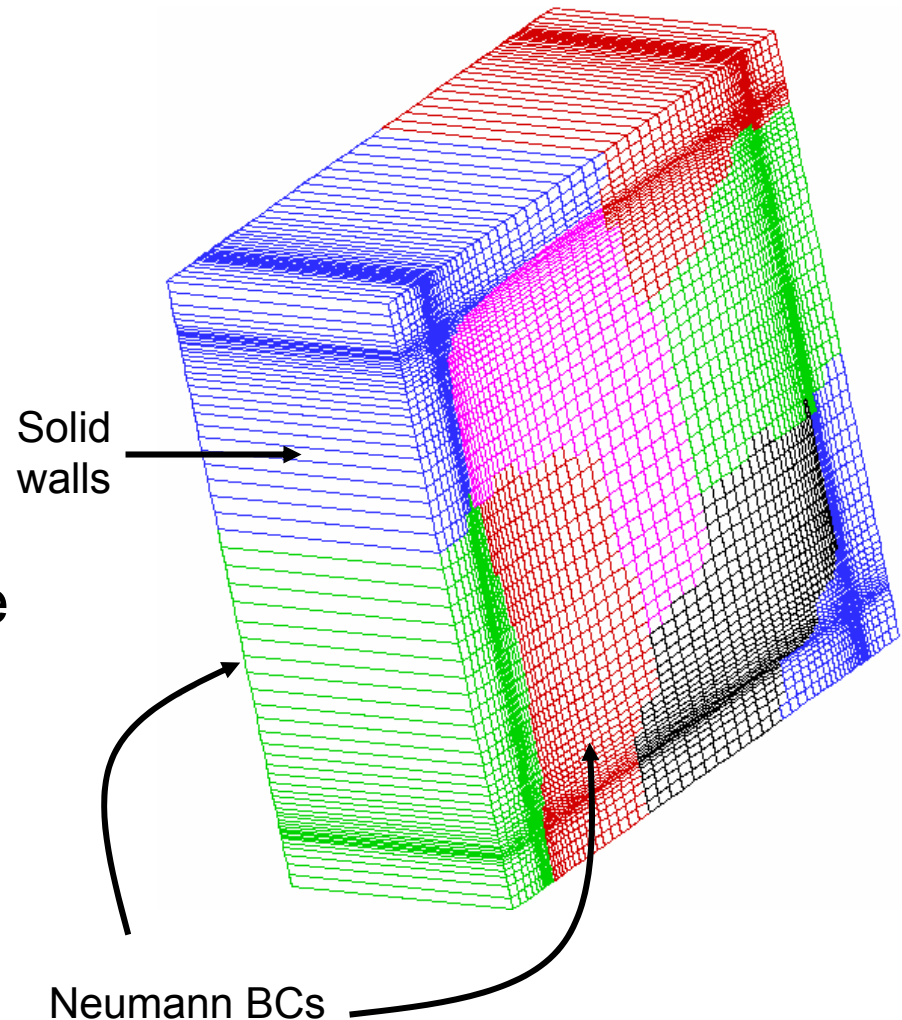
Single cell in the flow direction

Initial velocity can be set to zero  
and  $dp/dx = -c$

Multiple conducting walls may be  
used

Parallelization is unaffected

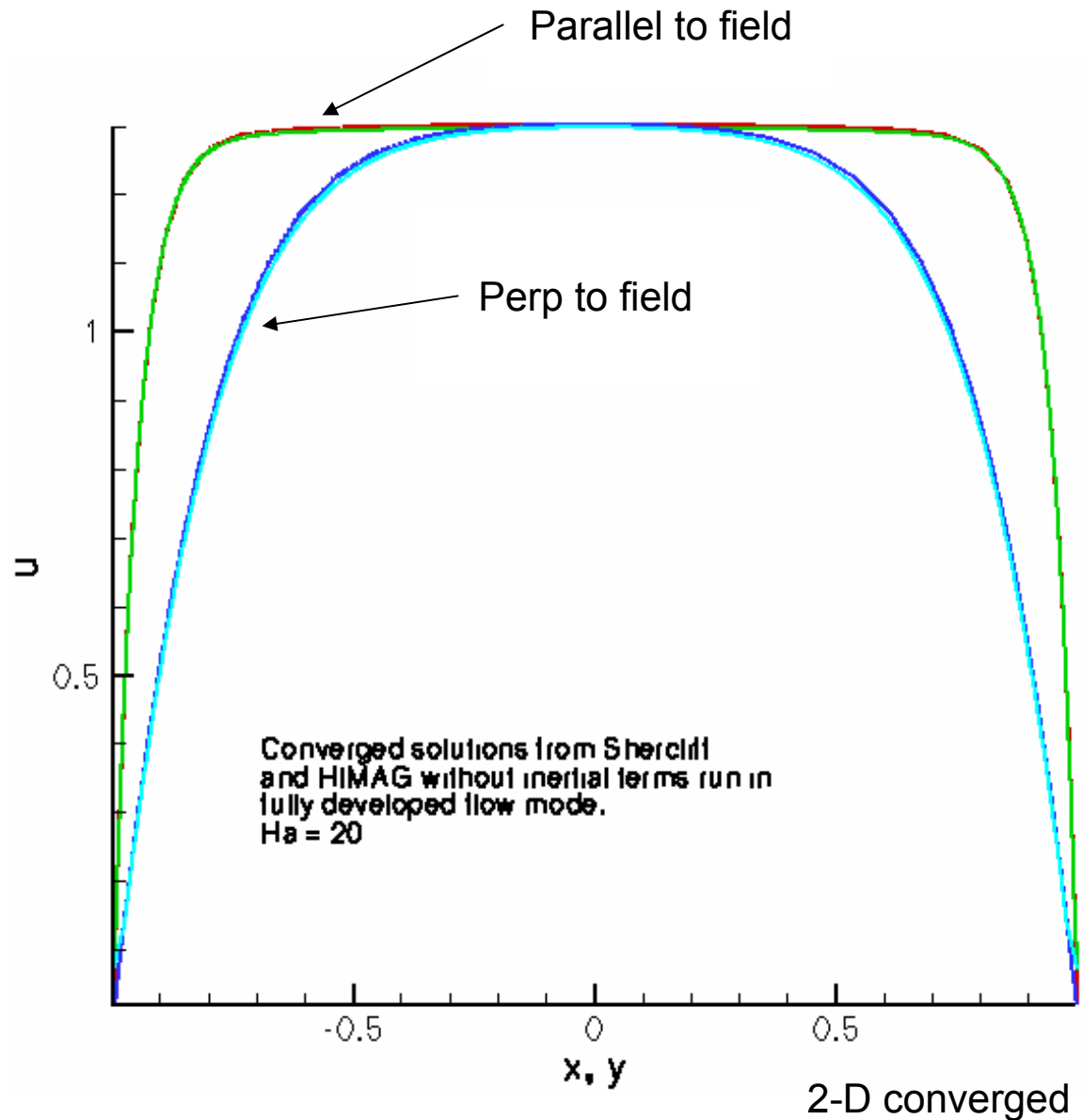
Code can be run with or without  
inertia terms



## Looking back at closed channel cases with the fully developed version of HIMAG

There were concerns about the matching 2D analytic solutions to developing 3-D flows (a few Percent discrepancy)

Ongoing work benchmarks evolving vs. developed flow results and the effect of 3-D B-fields.



## **Phase-II: Practical Simulations of two-phase MHD flows with wall effects**

The primary goals are:

- (1) To enhance code capabilities in solid wall modeling (arbitrary conductivity, and including ferromagnetism)
- (2) To enhance high Hartmann number capabilities, complete a formal validation for high Hartmann and Reynolds numbers for single and two phase flows
- (3) To participate in code applications to engineering design cases in NSTX, DiMES, ITER

## Tasks under Phase-II

### 1. Basic physics enhancements:

- Induction equation (B)-formulation
- Divergence control (both B and  $\phi$ )
- Thin conducting wall
- Hartmann layer analytical approximations
- Mixed Finite Volume-Boundary Element Methods for BC formulation on B
- Cracks, contact resistance
- Ferromagnetism



## **Tasks under Phase-II**

### **2. Validation and demonstration**

- **Closed channel flows – High B cases**
- **Cracks in insulation**
- **Jet and film flows**
- **Co-ordinate with Phase-I**

## Tasks under Phase-II

### 3. Computational technology enhancement

- **Fast Poisson solvers: finish the CG technique for all variables**
- **Code cleanup - restart**
- **Parallel efficiency**
- **Order of accuracy and stability**

## The **B**-formulation

The magnetic induction equation in the conservation form:

$$\frac{\partial \bar{\mathbf{B}}}{\partial t} - \bar{\nabla} \times (\bar{\mathbf{V}} \times \bar{\mathbf{B}}) = -\bar{\nabla} \times \left( \frac{\bar{\nabla} \times \bar{\mathbf{B}}}{\mu_0 \sigma} \right)$$

Integrating over a control volume, and using the Euler implicit scheme, we get:

$$\frac{\mathbf{B}_i^{n+1} - \mathbf{B}_i^n}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{\Omega} \oint_{\partial\Omega} \left\{ \hat{\mathbf{n}} \times (\bar{\mathbf{V}} \times \bar{\mathbf{B}}) \right\}_i^{n+1} ds - \frac{1}{\Omega} \oint_{\partial\Omega} \frac{1}{\mu_0 \sigma} \left\{ \hat{\mathbf{n}} \times (\bar{\nabla} \times \bar{\mathbf{B}}) \right\}_i^{n+1} ds$$

The finite volume expression is then written as:

$$\mathbf{B}_i^{n+1} = \mathbf{B}_i^n + \frac{\Delta t}{\Omega} \sum_{faces} \left\{ \hat{\mathbf{n}} \times (\bar{\mathbf{V}} \times \bar{\mathbf{B}}) \right\}_i^{n+1} \Delta s - \frac{\Delta t}{\Omega} \sum_{faces} \frac{1}{\mu_0 \sigma} \left\{ \hat{\mathbf{n}} \times (\bar{\nabla} \times \bar{\mathbf{B}}) \right\}_i^{n+1} \Delta s$$

This equation is solved iteratively to convergence.

In the fully developed flow situation, we use  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B}_0$  at all boundaries

# Divergence cleanup

Given a computed magnetic field distribution  $\mathbf{B}^*$  from the PDEs above, we seek a divergence free update to the solution at  $\mathbf{B}^{n+1}$

$$\nabla \cdot \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{n+1} = 0$$

We perform a Hodge-type decomposition of the vector field  $\mathbf{B}^*$

$$\bar{\mathbf{B}}^{n+1} = \mathbf{B}^* - \nabla \psi$$

$$\nabla \cdot \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{n+1} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \nabla^2 \psi = \nabla \cdot \bar{\mathbf{B}}^*$$

The Poisson equation above is solved with Dirichlet BC:  $\psi = 0$  on all boundaries

# Basic Physics – Major model enhancements

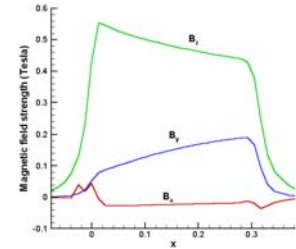
- Control of divergence errors in current density and magnetic field

Given a 1-D measurement of  $B$ ,  
how best to use it in a 3-D  $\phi$  code,

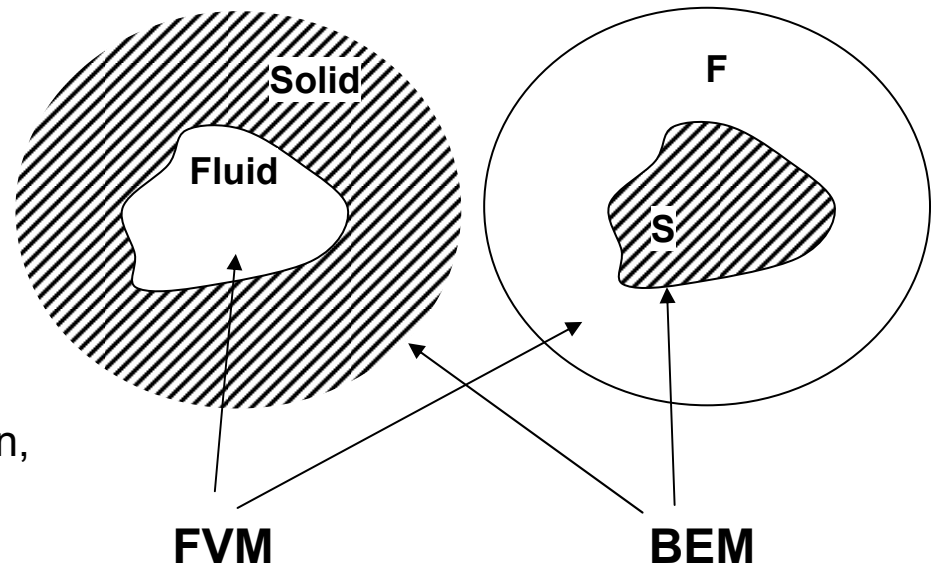
ensuring

$$\text{Div}(\mathbf{B}) = 0$$

$$\text{Curl}(\mathbf{B}) = 0$$



- High Ha semi-analytical treatment
- Boundary element method for  $B$  and  $\phi$ :  
A coupled BEM-FVM strategy as an option,  
could be used as a BC to complement  
thin conducting wall, insulating wall



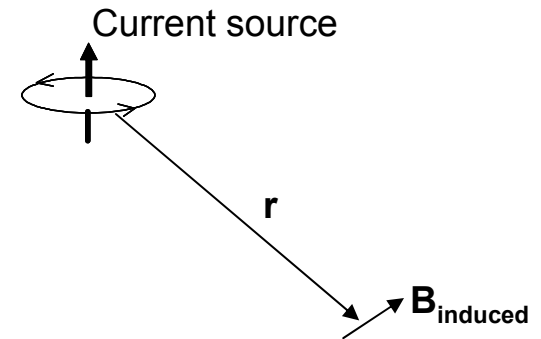
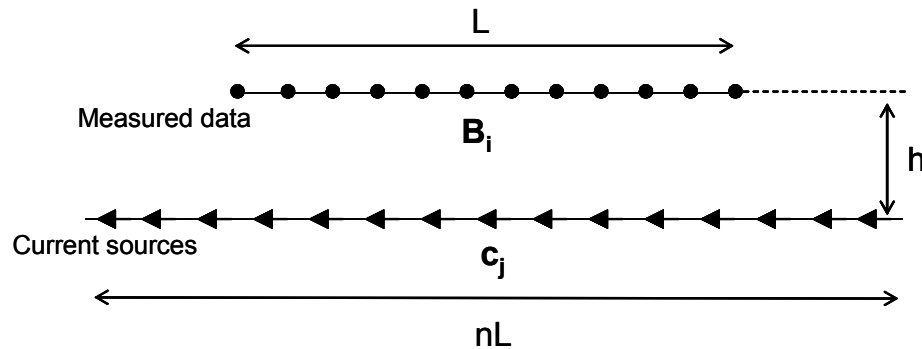
# Reconstruction of 3-D magnetic fields from discrete data

The problem:

Given a set of magnetic field measurements along a line,  
to extrapolate it for use in a 3-D code

Procedure:

Locate a set of sources at a distance and compute their strengths  
to induce a magnetic field matching measurements



$$\delta \vec{B} = \alpha \frac{\vec{r} \times \delta \vec{I}}{r^3}$$

Biot-Savart law

$$\sum_{j=1}^N c_j \delta \vec{B}_{ij} = B_i \quad i = 1 \dots M$$

$$\underbrace{[A]^T [A]}_M \{c_j\} = [A]^T \{B_i\}$$

$$[A] \{c_j\} = \{B_i\}$$

$[A]$  is in general not a square matrix.

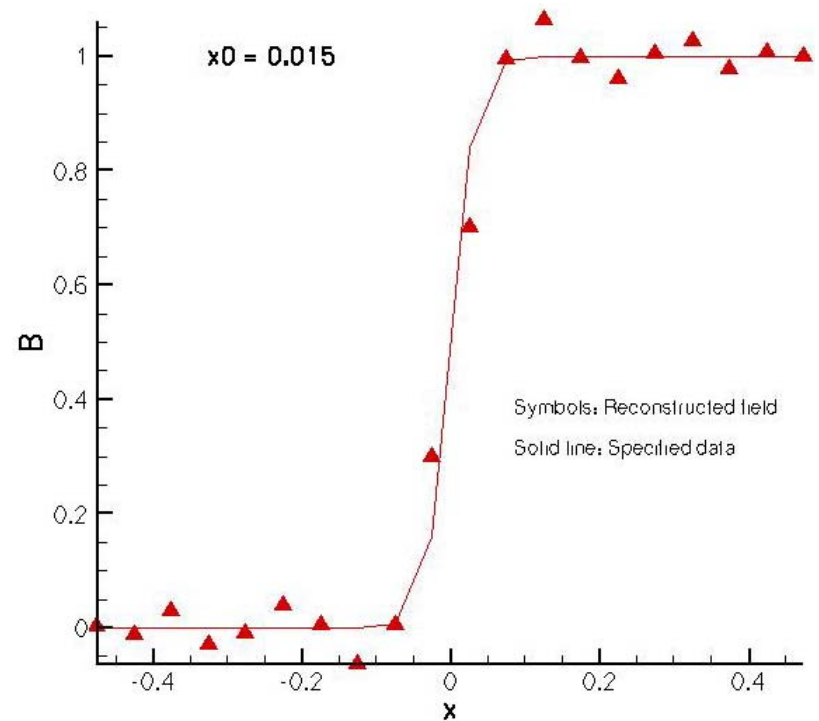
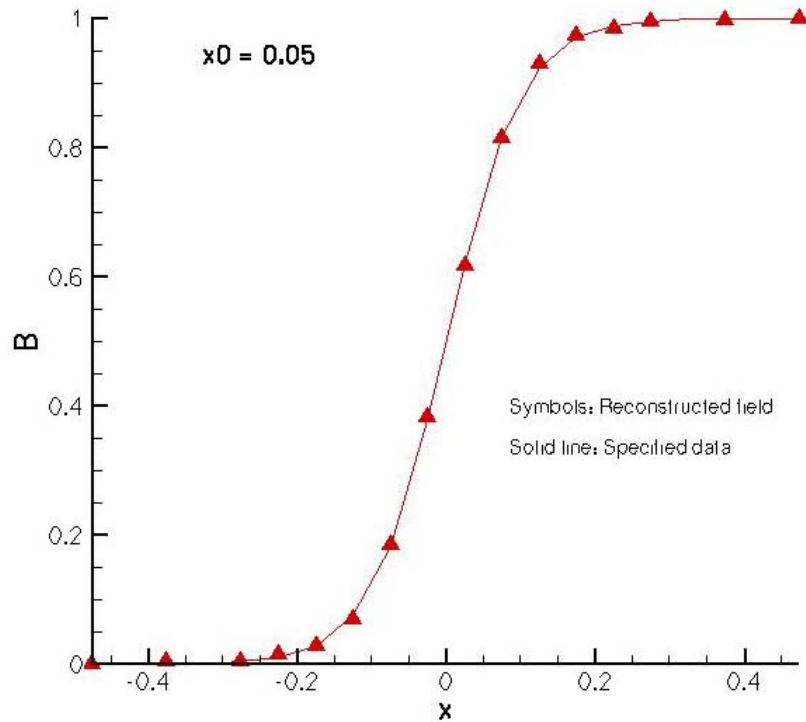
$$\{c_j\} = M^{-1} [A]^T \{B_i\}$$

This system can be solved by the method of least squares

## Sample application to a field with a gradient (e.g., Sterl – 1990)

Applied field:  $B_y(x) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-x / x_0)}$

20 “measurements” matched with 30 sources

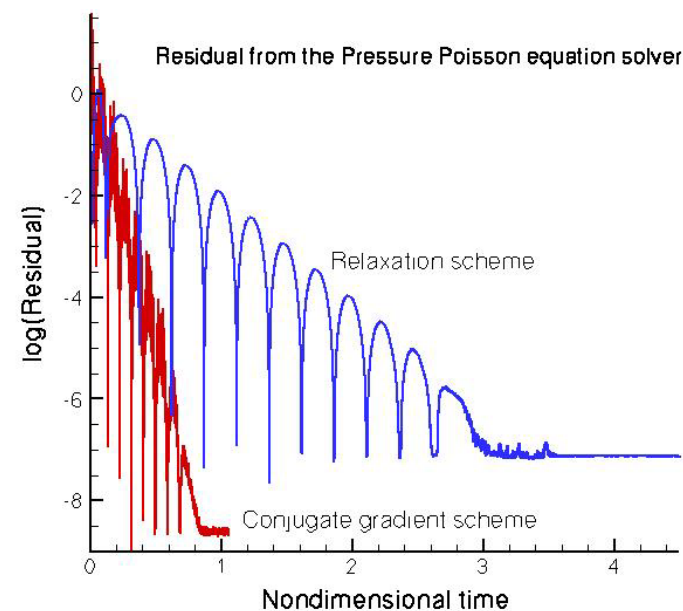
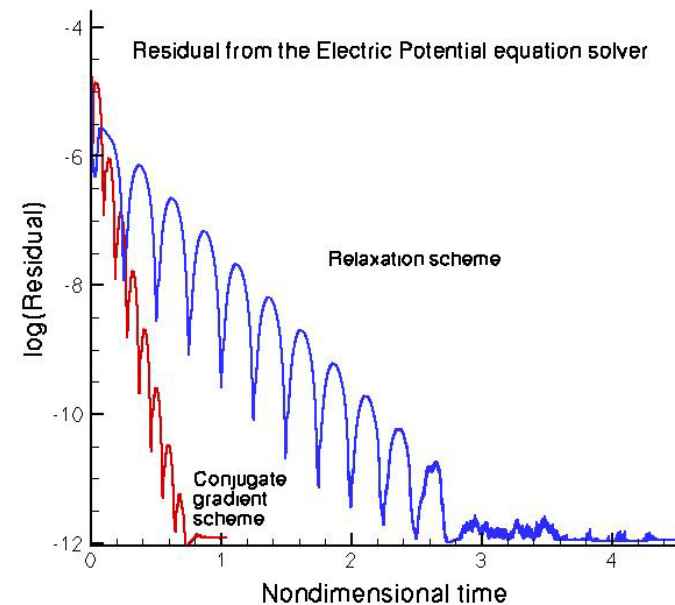
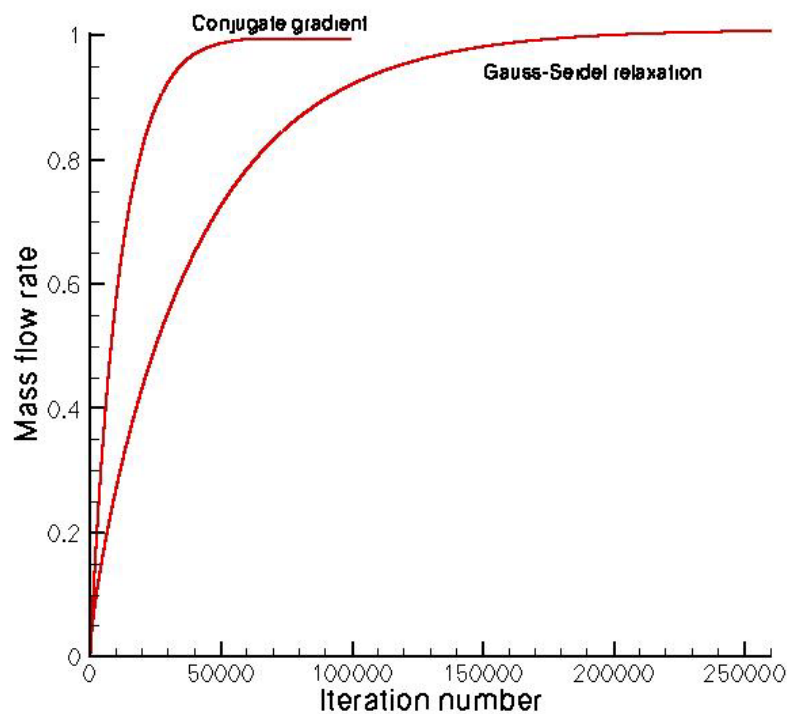


# Fast and accurate Poisson solver development

The CG versions of pressure and potential equation solvers are now ready. Gauss-Seidel over-relaxation is available as an option.

Parallelization is complete.  $\text{div}(\mathbf{J})$  and  $\text{div}(\mathbf{V})$  seen to be well controlled by switching to CG

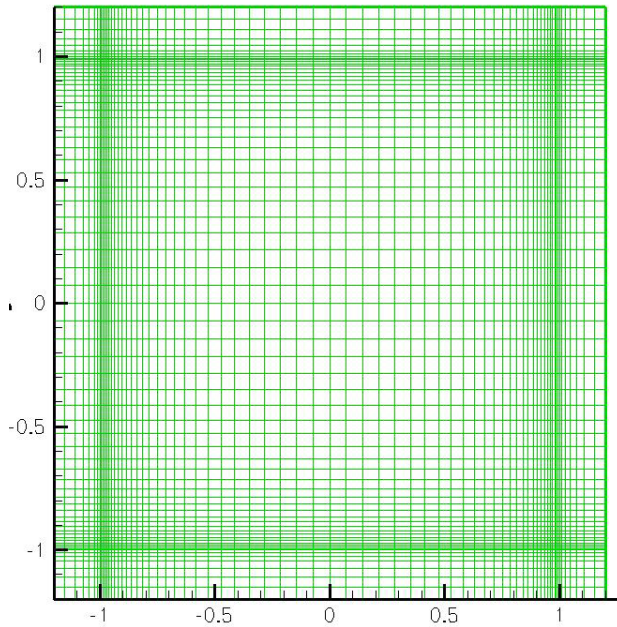
Free surface tests are going on.





# Conducting walls

GRID #2

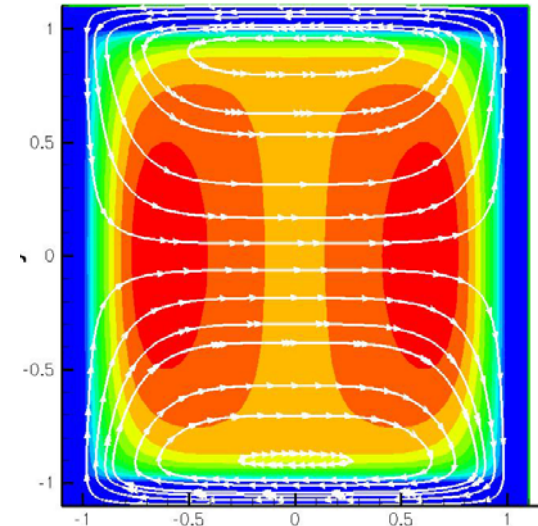
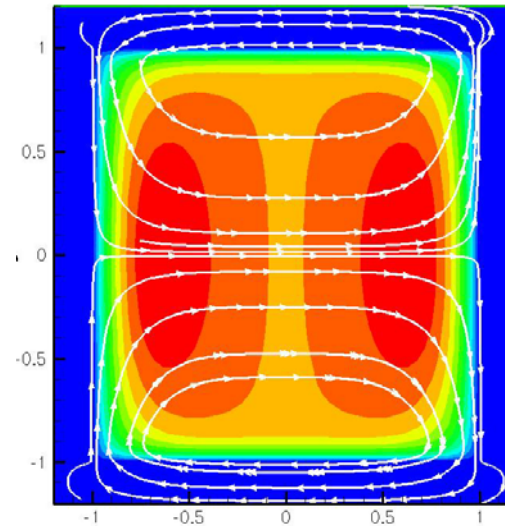
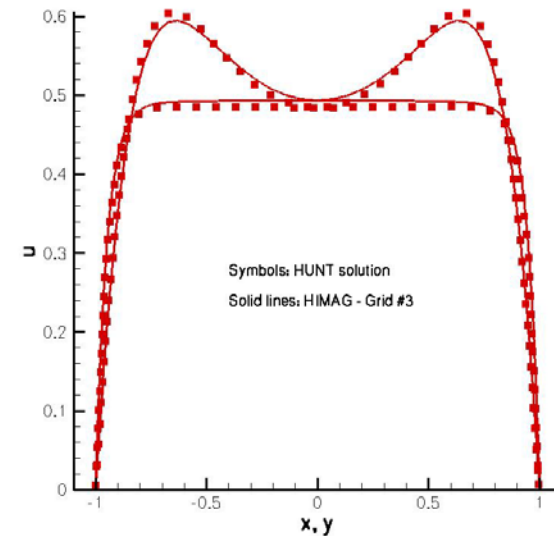
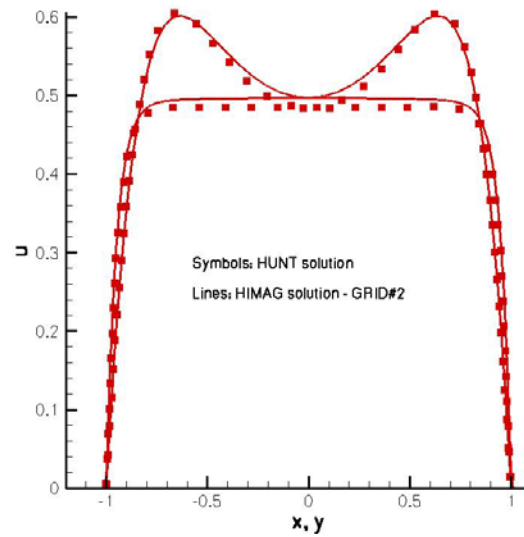


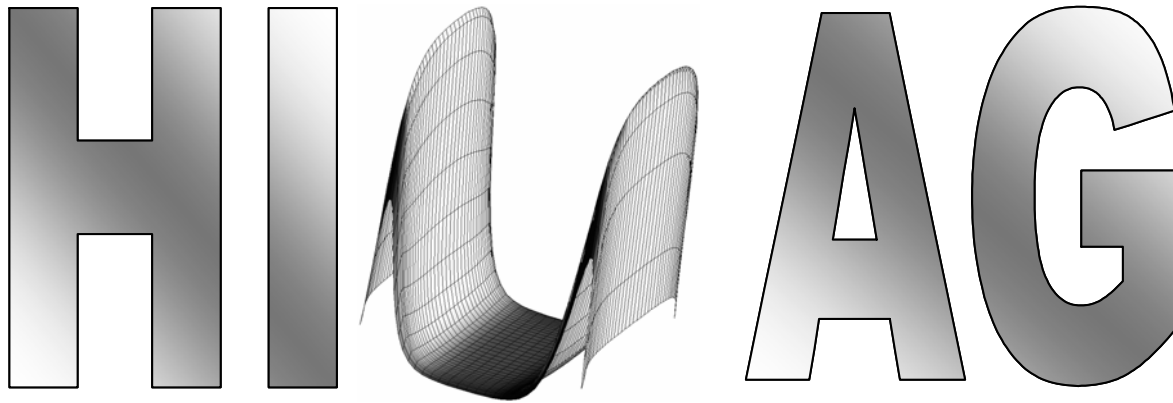
$Ha = 20$  with conducting walls, fully developed flow.

Comparison with Hunt's solution.

Effect of a wall thickness.

$c_w = 0.1$  (fixed in both cases)

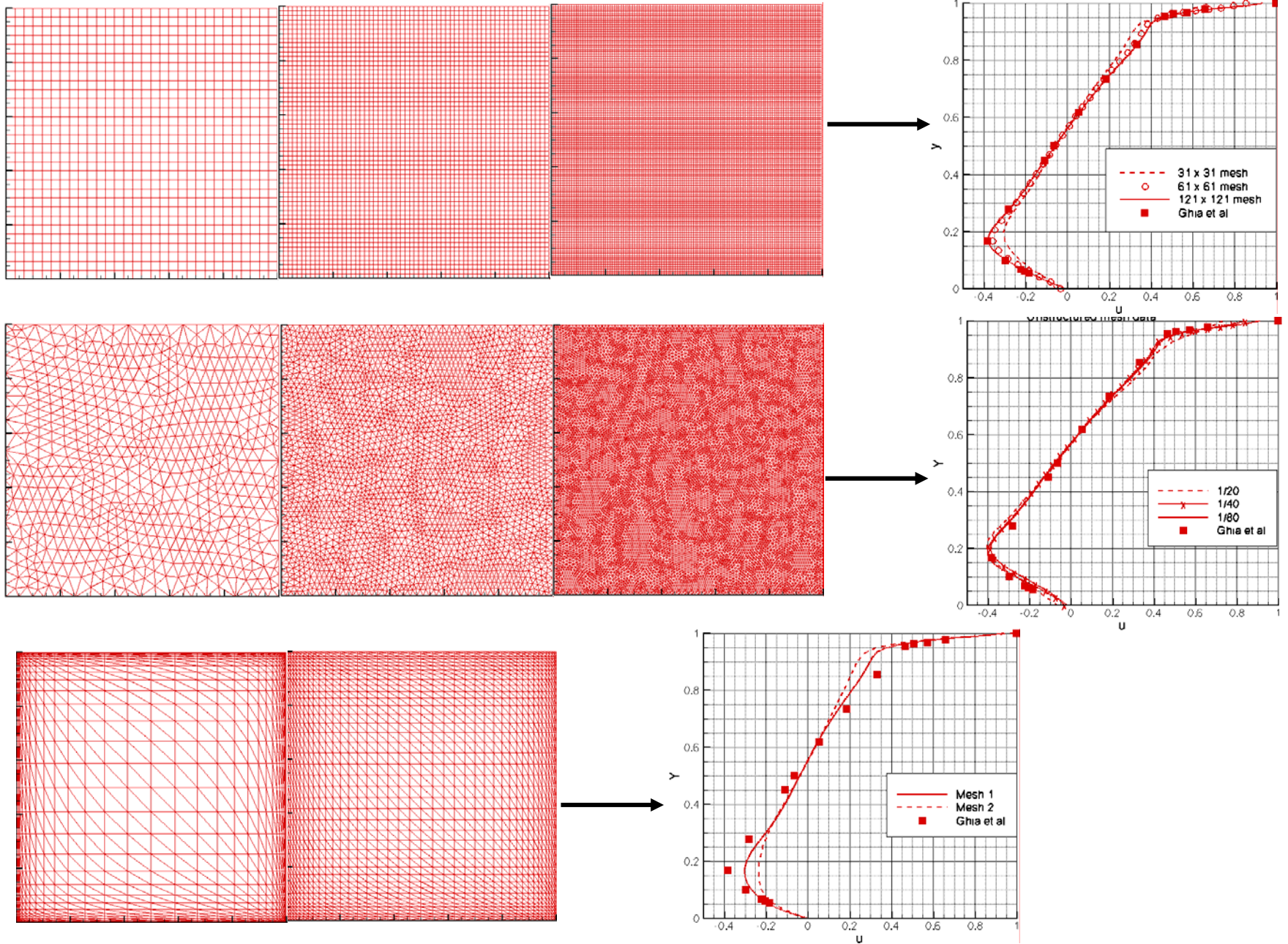




Computational technology and its demonstration:

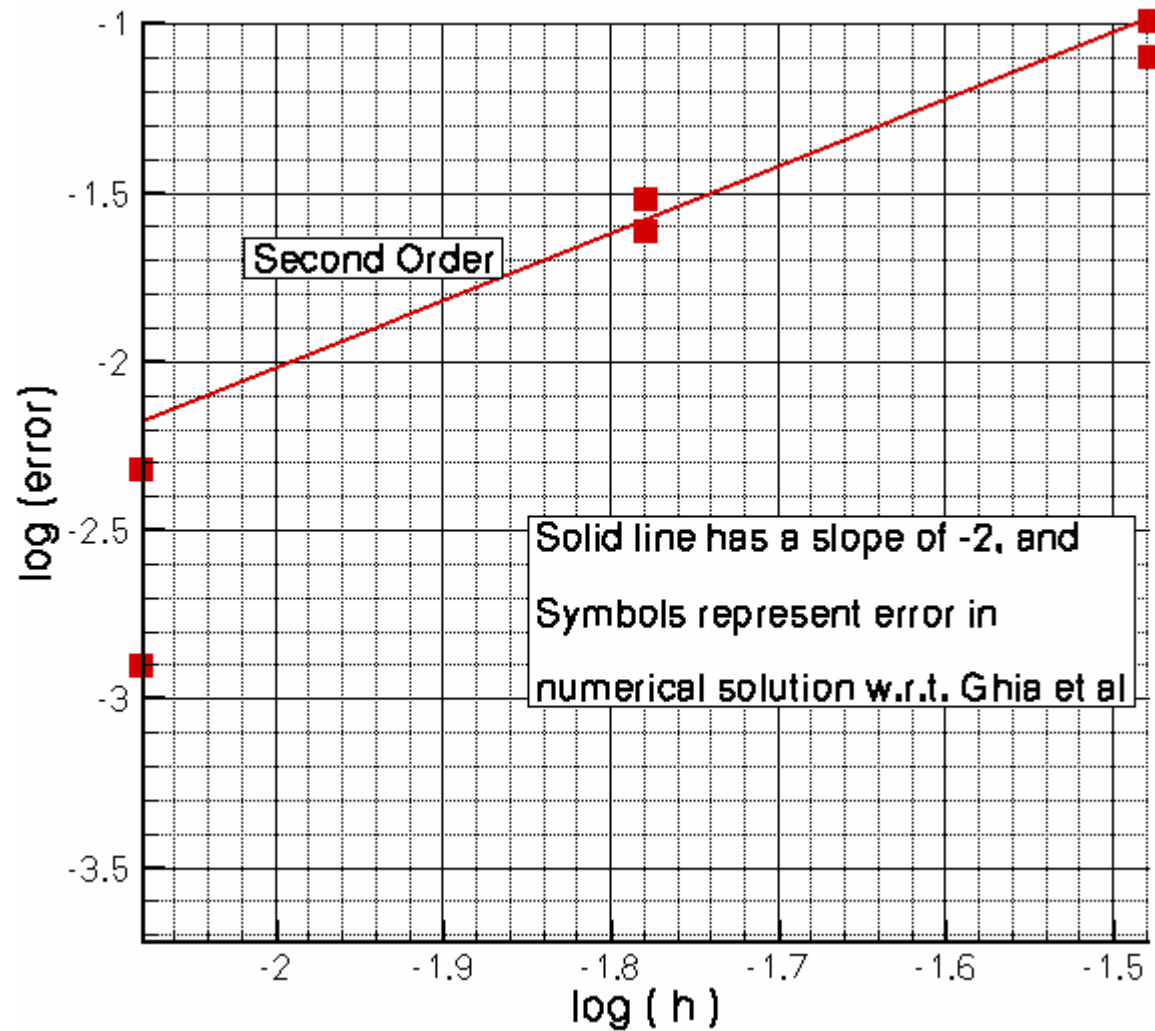
- Effects of mesh orthogonality, structure
- Order of accuracy of algorithm
- Parallel efficiency
- Applications to sample problems

# Effect of mesh quality – The driven cavity problem at $Re = 1000$

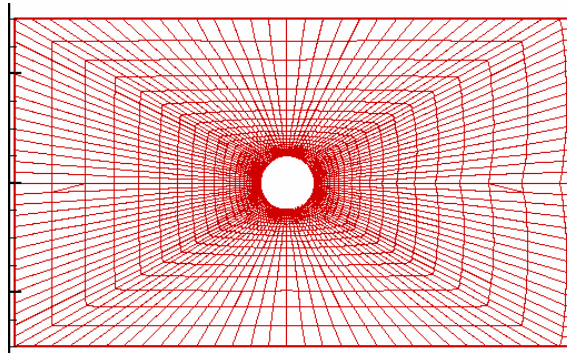




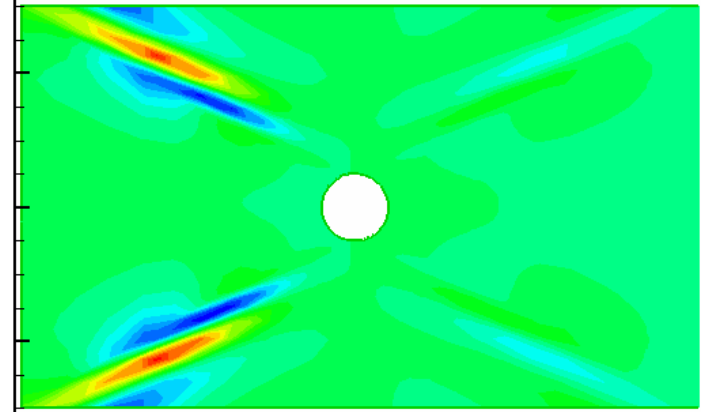
## Formal order of accuracy study for the driven cavity problem



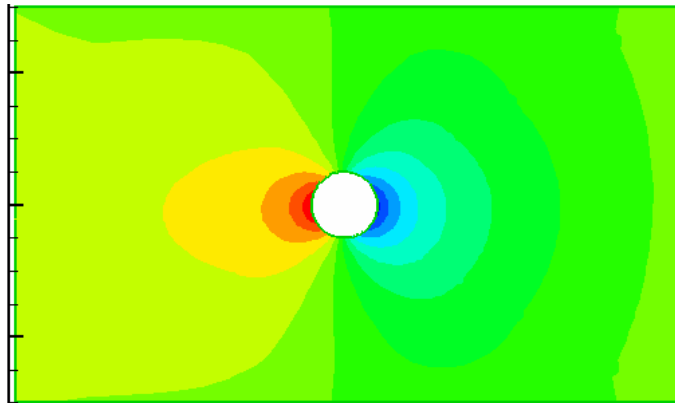
# Non-orthogonality corrections imposed



Without mesh-skewness correction

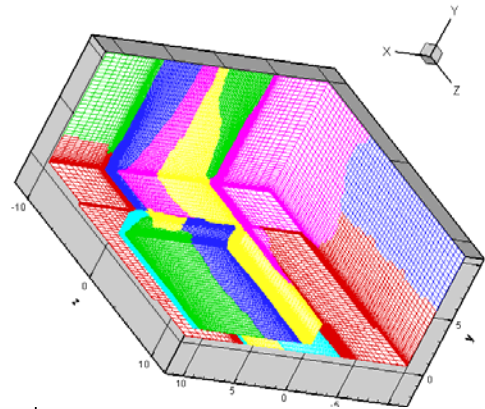
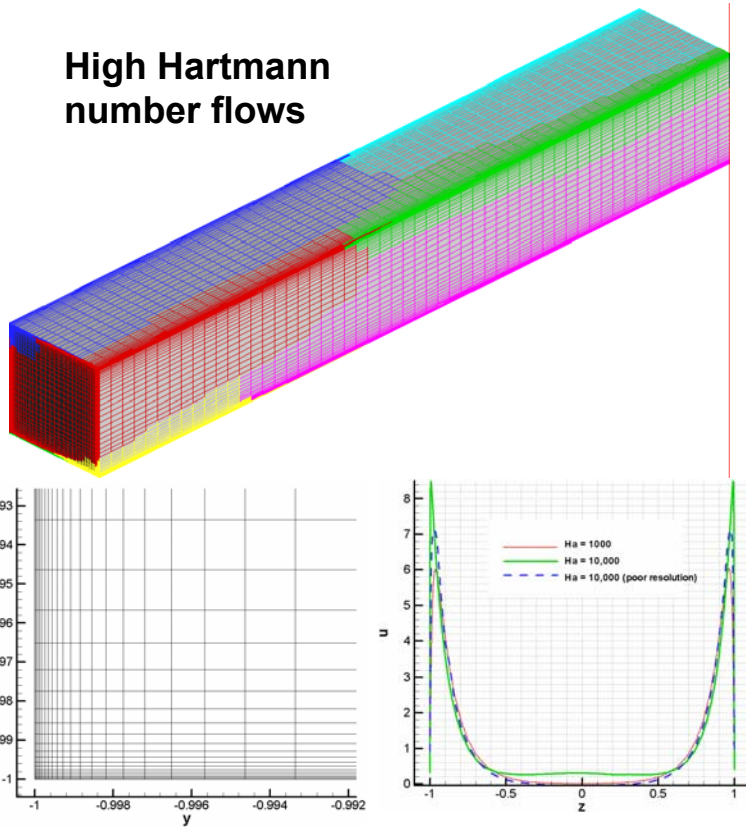


With mesh-skewness correction

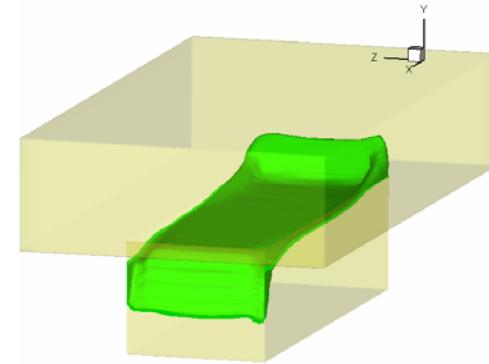
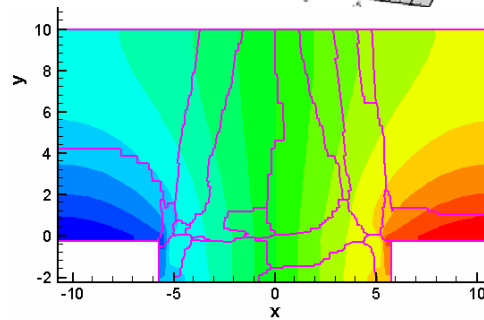


# Parallel code execution

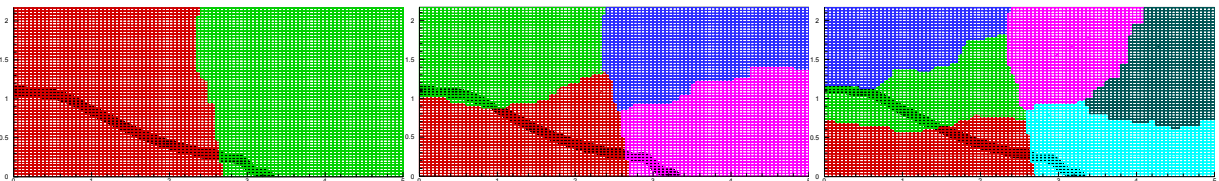
High Hartmann number flows



DiMES: MHD sloshing of liquid metal

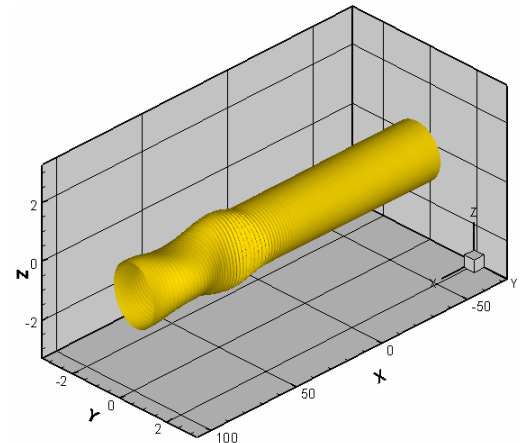
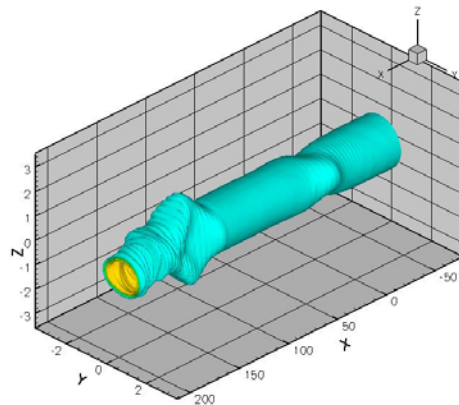
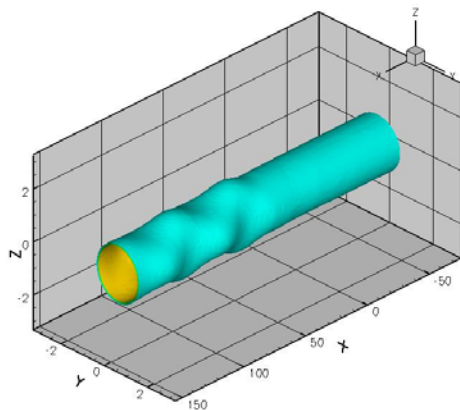
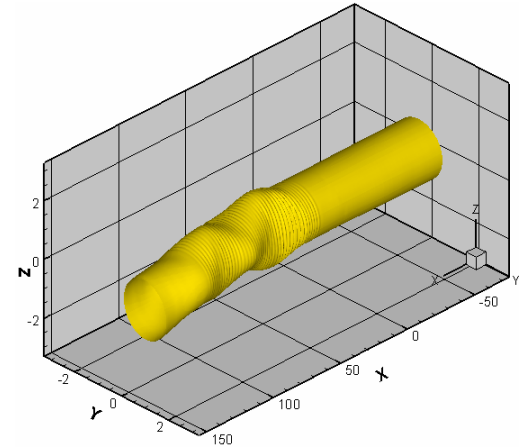
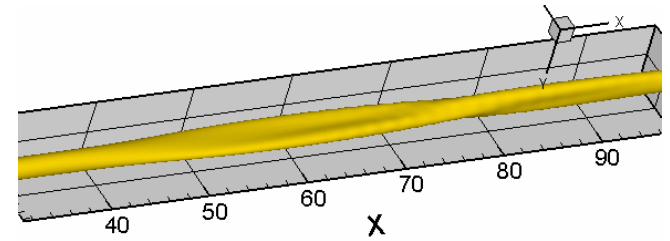


Validation across multi-processors



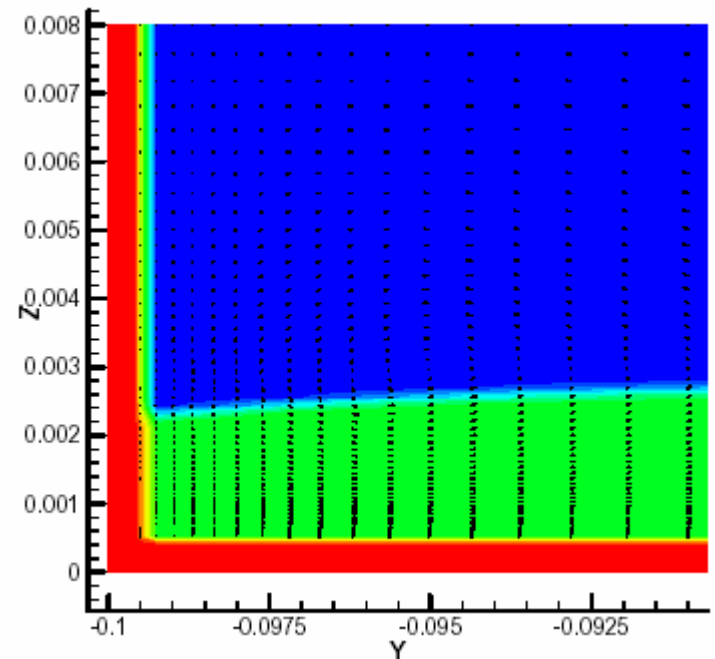
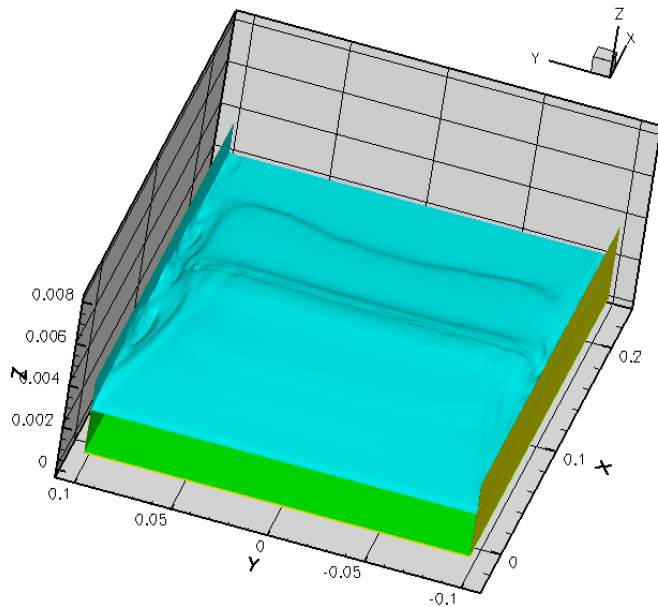
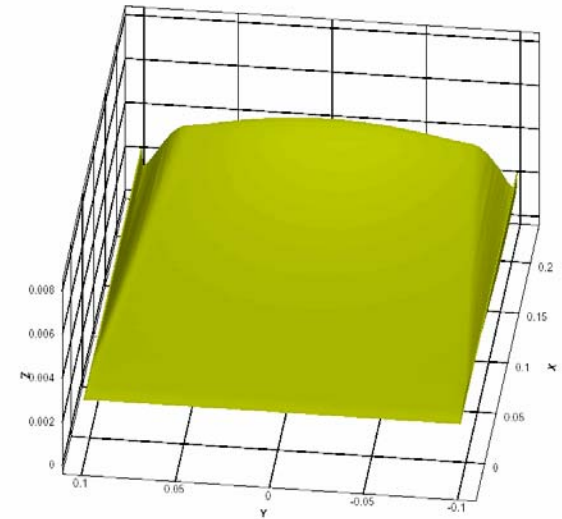
# MHD jet flows

Presently we are trying to study the effect of Reynolds and Hartmann numbers on the modes and stability of a liquid metal jet in a magnetic field with sharp gradients.



## Free surfaces and conducting walls

After a series of troubleshooting exercises,  
We are now able to run fairly high Re cases  
of film flows in the presence of  
conducting walls.





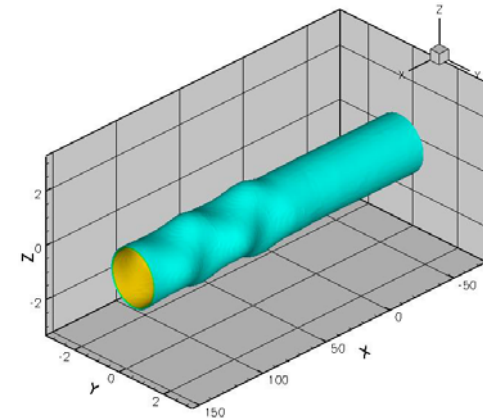
## Validation

Methodical validation of the results from MTOR, NSTX-jet flow cases is under way.

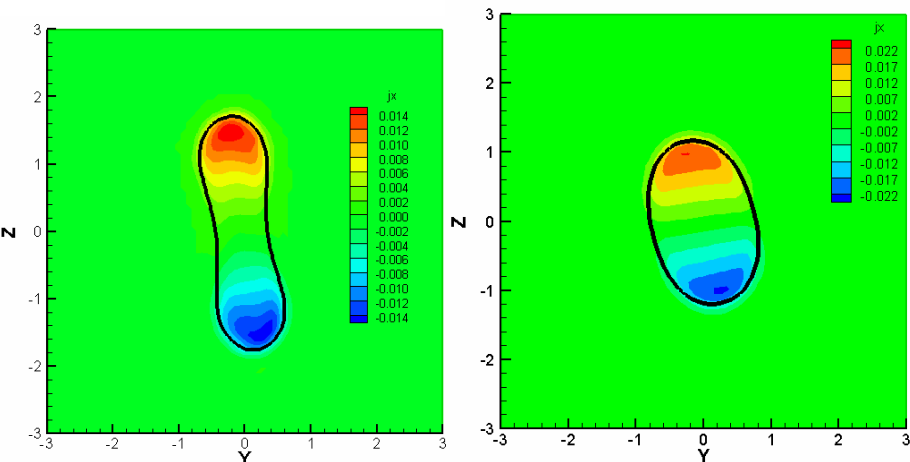
An analytical confirmation of non-MHD flow results will be completed in the coming month.

MHD jet/film flow data from experiments are being Prepared for comparison with HIMAG

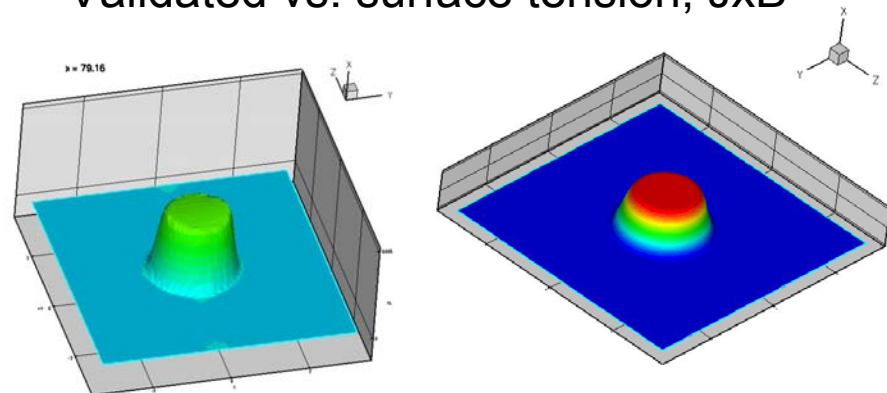
Instability structure for non-MHD cases



Axial current contours



Pressure and density distributions  
Validated vs. surface tension,  $J \times B$



## **Tasks for the immediate future:**

- Completion of the induction equation formulation, ferromagnetic effects
- Development of a general purpose convection-diffusion routine (energy, ke, tritium...)
- Fully implicit execution of free surface flow calculations (right now, we are running in a semi-implicit mode – BCs are explicit.)
- Suggestions...